

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-07 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-11 L-03

ACDA-19 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5183

INFO USCINCEUR

AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, GR

SUBJECT: PRESS HIGHLIGHTS - AUGUST 27

1. SUMMARY. ATHENS NEWSPAPERS REGISTERED RELATIVELY UNEVENTFUL TWENTY-FOUR HOUR PERIOD BY CONTINUING TO REPORT ON SOVIET PROPOSAL AND REPRINTING STORIES FROM FOREIGN PRESS INCLUDING NEWSWEEK INTERVIEW WITH AMBASSADOR TASCA AND JACK ANDERSON COLUMN ON CLOSING NATO BASES IN GREECE. EDITORIALS CONCENTRATED ON GREEK RELATIONS WITH WEST AND ON PUNISHING JUNTA MEMBERS AND COLLABORATORS.
END SUMMARY

2. HEADLINES IN MORNING PRESS DEALTH PRINCIPALLY WITH CYPRUS NEGOTIATIONS. "RUSSIAN MOVE ON BEHALF OF GREECE?" - (AKROPOLIS), "WITH GREECE'S INITIATIVE CYPRUS ISSUE WILL BE BROUGHT BEFORE UN - U.S. REJECTS RUSSIAN PLAN" - (ELEFTHEROS COSMOS), "MR. TASCA DECLARES: I HAVE NEVER HAD ANY DEALINGS WITH IOANNIDES" - (TO VIMA)

3. LEAD STORIES CONTINUED FOCUS ON CYPRUS CRISIS AND AFTERMATH WITH ALL NEWSPAPERS REPRINTING JACK ANDERSON COLUMN ASSERTION THAT GREECE WILL SHUTDOWN NATO BASES WITHIN YEAR. ALL PAPERS REPORTED GOG DECREE DISMISSING SEVENTEEN BRIGADIER GENERALS
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FROM ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY AND PROMOTIN OF ELEVEN OTHERS

TO LIEUTENANT GENERAL. PRESS ANNOUNCED THAT PM CARAMANLIS
WOULD DELIVER "POLITICAL" SPEECH THESSALONIKI TRADE FAIR
OPENING ON AUGUST 31.

AKROPOLIS REPORTED THAT TURKS THREATEN TO OCCUPY ALL
CYPRUS IN EVENT OF GUERRILLA WARFARE. ELEFTHEROS COSMOS
COVERED MINISTER CULTURE AND SCIENCES TSATSOS' VISIT TO
U.S., EMPHASIZING HIS VIEW THAT AMERICAN PEOPLE AND PRESS
DISAGREE WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER AND SUPPORT GREECE.
AVGHI NOTED RECENT INTERVIEW OF FM MAVROS IN PARIS
L'EXPRESS MADE CLEAR THAT GREECE'S RETURN TO NATO IS OUT
OF QUESTION. AVGHI ALSO REPORTED ALLEGED MAKARIOS STATEMENT
SUPPORTING SOVIET PROPOSAL AND HIS INTENTION TO RETURN
TO CYPRUS AS SOON AS CIRCUMSTANCES PERMIT. VRADYNI SUGGESTED
MAKARIOS MAY VISIT ATHENS FOLLOWING HIS TOUR OF EUROPEAN
COUNTRIES. SAME NEWSPAPER ALSO URGED THAT GOG PREVENT THOSE
MINISTERS WHO SERVED APRIL 21 REGIME FROM DEPARTING GREECE.

4. AFTERNOON PRESS LAUNCHED INTO POLITICAL ARENA REPORTING
NEW POLITICAL PARTIES BEGINNING TO TAKE FORM.
APOYEVMATINI WROTE THAT MINISTER OF FINANCE PESMAZOGLOU
AND MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS GEORGE MANGAKIS WILL ESTABLISH
CENTER-LEFTIST POLITICAL PARTY. TA NEA FRONTPAGED PHOTO
OF AMBASSADOR TASCA WITH PAPADOPOULOS WITH CAPTION "DURING
TIME OF THEIR COOPERATION" AND REPRINTED NEWSWEEK INTERVIEW
WITH TASCA WITH HEADLINE "WE ARE NOT SO CRAZY AS TO CHOOSE
D. IOANNIDES." ATHINAIKI RAN BANNER HEADLINE "AMERICANS
GATHER THEIR THINGS." IN SEPARATE STORY SAME PAPER QUOTED
SOVIET AMBASSADOR YESHOV AFTER MEETING WITH FM MAVROS AS
SAYING "ALL WILL GO WELL," AND THAT HE IS ABSOLUTELY SATISFIED."
ATHINAIKI TOOK RARE POLITICAL SWIPE AT PM CARAMANLIS BY PROTESTING
PICTURES OF PREMIER SEEN EVERYWHERE AND GOG'S EMPLOYMENT OF
ERE ADHERENTS.

5. EDITORIALS CONTINUED TO REGISTER CONCERN OVER CYPRUS
DEVELOPMENTS. ESTIA APPLAUSED GOG ACCEPTANCE OF SOVIET
PLAN AND ATTACHED WESTERN POWERS FOR IMMORAL, UNJUST AND
HYPOCRITICAL STAND TOWARD GREECE. IN SEPARATE COMMENTARY
ESTIA WROTE GOG SHOULD IMPLEMENT REPORTED DECISION TO CLOSE
DOWN NATO BASES UNLESS U.S. POLICY IN CYPRUS CHANGES
RADICALLY. VRADYNI'S V. VASSILIOU URGED PRESIDENT FORD TO
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ATTEMPT TO REPAIR CYPRUS SITUATION SINCE "NOTHING CAN BREAK
TIES BETWEEN GREECE AND GREAT AMERICAN PEOPLE." AKROPOLIS
EDITORIALIZED THAT INTERNATIONALIZATION OF CYPRUS ISSUE IS
ONLY WAY LEFT TO GREECE AND CYPRUS. TA NEA DEMANDED PURGE OF ALL
PROJUNTA PERSONALITIES FROM MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND
JUSTICE. OTHER PAPERS JOINED TA NEA IN URGING PUNISHMENT OF
JUNTA MEMBERS SINGLING OUT IOANNIDES IN PARTICULAR.
TASCA

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